Authority (NPPA) has started to study the experience of other countries in the field of pricing and regulatory framework for affordable medicines to see whether benefit can be taken from their experience or not. Shri Pradeep Mehra, Ex-Member Secretary, NPPA and L.M. Kaushal, Director (Monitoring), NPPA visited France, United Kingdom and Isreal in May, 2006 to study pricing and monitoring mechanisms for medicines in these countries. Shri Arun Jha, Member Secretary, NPPA also visited Luxembourg, Brussels and Amsterdam in March, 2007 together with the officials of Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals for exploring opportunities in the Pharmaceutical and Plastic Sector in these countries. The officers who visited abroad have submitted their tour reports.

**Companies operating on the basis of PPP**

3420. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of firms in the country operating on the principle of Public Private Partnership (PPP) as on date;

(b) whether Government feels that this principle is harmful to the drug industry; and

(c) if so, how Government intends to control the domination of the private sector in the drug industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) No such information is being maintained by this Department.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government is engaged in strengtheing Pharma CPSUs for manufacture of drugs.

**Revival of fertilizer factories**

3421. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether disinvestments in public sector fertilizer companies and corporations have helped to revive and rejuvenate the fertilizer factories like the Paradeep Phosphates Ltd.;

(b) if so, the production and profits/losses after tax incurred by these factories, year-wise since 2001-02; and

(c) what specific steps were taken during these years to revive and rejuvenate the fertilizer factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) The Government had disinvested 74% of Government of India equity in the Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. (PPL) during 2001-02. This was the only Public Sector Fertilizer company in which disinvestment had taken place. The details of production of the company and its profits/losses (after tax) since 2001-02 are given in Statement (*See* below). Immediately on disinvestment, as on 28th Feb. 2002, the management control of the company was transferred to the strategic partner who had purchased the majority share holding and it has ceased to be a Public Sector Undertaking. Hence, the Government taking any steps to revive and rejuvenate the company does not arise.